

To: Slugantz, Lynn[Slugantz.Lynn@epa.gov]; Peterson, Mary[Peterson.Mary@epa.gov]; Field, Jeff[Field.Jeff@epa.gov]; Vann, Bradley[Vann.Bradley@epa.gov]; Stoy, Alyse[Stoy.Alyse@epa.gov]; Jackson, Robert W.[Jackson.Robertw@epa.gov]
Cc: Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]
From: Carey, Curtis
Sent: Thur 11/20/2014 4:39:02 PM
Subject: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Thanks Lynn,

Yes, please include these in the call talking points. I did not receive additional comments on the desk statement.

From: Slugantz, Lynn
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2014 10:30 AM
To: Carey, Curtis; Peterson, Mary; Field, Jeff; Vann, Bradley; Stoy, Alyse; Jackson, Robert W.
Cc: Washburn, Ben
Subject: RE: DELIBERATIVE RE: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Curtis – I am good with this, don't know if you received any other comments. I need to update the talking points for the call with Doug to update our points on the health clinic request since we have the language pretty much agreed upon with ATSDR now. Would you like me add this as well? Then send it back to you?

Thank you,

Lynn M. Slugantz

Office of Regional Administrator

US EPA Region 7

11201 Renner Blvd, Lenexa KS 66219

(913) 551-7883 (d)

(913) 048-1129 (c)

From: Carey, Curtis

Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2014 8:53 AM

To: Slugantz, Lynn; Peterson, Mary; Field, Jeff; Vann, Bradley; Stoy, Alyse; Jackson, Robert W.

Cc: Washburn, Ben

Subject: RE: DELIBERATIVE RE: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Lynn and Superfund,

Here is a draft desk statement/talking points for Karl's call with Doug today. Please review/approve.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

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Ex. 5 - Deliberative

From: Slugantz, Lynn
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 4:39 PM
To: Carey, Curtis; Peterson, Mary
Cc: Washburn, Ben; Field, Jeff; Vann, Bradley; Stoy, Alyse; Jackson, Robert W.; McKernan, John
Subject: RE: DELIBERATIVE RE: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Curtis – I have spoken with John McKernan in ORD. He confirmed my suspicion that the statement in the March 2014 ORD memo regarding the potential for fine particulates to escape was not intended to imply that we believe that RIM had the potential to escape under the scenario described. So our statement in the response letter to Lois Gibbs is EPA being more specific than we were before, not changing our position. Based on our current understanding of the OU-1 materials and the RIM, we do not anticipate there would be RIM in gases or associated with the fine particulates if gases were to be released from the Westlake Landfill due to a SSE. We do anticipate an increase in the release of radon, as we described in our letter to Ms. Gibbs and the March 2014 ORD memo.

I've made possible edits to your statement in your email below for you to consider.

Thank you,

Lynn M. Slugantz

Office of Regional Administrator

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From: Carey, Curtis
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Slugantz, Lynn; Peterson, Mary
Cc: Washburn, Ben
Subject: DELIBERATIVE RE: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

I believe this draft to be deliberative in nature.

Please review this draft desk statement. I am wondering if the updated language that's in the letter based on new data. We need to understand that first. Here's the draft if so,

DELIBERATIVE - DRAFT -- DESK STATEMENT -- DRAFT

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

From: Slugantz, Lynn
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Peterson, Mary; Carey, Curtis
Cc: Washburn, Ben

Subject: RE: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Here is the pertinent language from our letter.

Region 7's response actions to date at the West Lake Landfill site make temporary or permanent relocation inconsistent with Agency authority and practice as well as with the scientific evidence. I understand the public's concern about the movement of the SSE. At this time EPA does not believe that the data collected thus far substantiates a conclusion that the SSE is moving toward the radiologically-impacted material (RIM). Even if the SSE came into contact with the RIM, based on EPA's understanding of the type of RIM and its distribution in Operable Unit 1 (OU-1), we do not believe it would become reactive or explosive at temperatures typically observed in a SSE. A SSE in OU-1, regardless of whether or not it comes into contact with RIM, would be expected to change the conditions within the landfill, and likely increase the rate at which landfill gases are released. We would anticipate an increase in release of gases from the landfill through surface cracks or fissures that may form. These gasses could be released as steam, radon and potentially other gases (as determined by the composition of the non-RIM materials present). From what we know of the constituents of OU-1, particularly the RIM, we don't expect any of the gases released to contain RIM material. We do expect radon to be released, as this is a breakdown product of the RIM in OU-1 and it is a naturally occurring gas from geological formations in our area. We know about the natural occurrence of radon based on data collected by the USGS. Based upon EPA's understanding of SSEs, the release of any gases would be localized, and not occur over the entire Site. Should substantially different SSE behavior warrant additional actions, construction of a proper cap over the landfill would help reduce both short and long term risks to human health associated with any increased release of radon. EPA is working with MDNR to collect additional information on temperatures, gases and subsidence that can be used to develop a better picture of trends and hence of movement of the SSE within the landfill and quarries.

Thank you,

Lynn M. Slugantz

Office of Regional Administrator

US EPA Region 7

11201 Renner Blvd, Lenexa KS 66219

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(913) 048-1129 (c)

From: Peterson, Mary
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 10:31 AM
To: Carey, Curtis
Cc: Slugantz, Lynn; Washburn, Ben
Subject: Re: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

I just forwarded the link Lynn sent out on Monday. Forwarded to Curtis and Ben.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 19, 2014, at 10:19 AM, "Carey, Curtis" <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov> wrote:

That's what I expected. Ben and I will contact him. Can I get the final version of the letter?

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 19, 2014, at 10:05 AM, "Peterson, Mary" <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov> wrote:

The reporter is misquoting Karl's letter. He needs to more carefully read paragraph 5 of the letter. There is no discrepancy with ORD report.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 19, 2014, at 9:28 AM, "Carey, Curtis" <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov> wrote:

Lynn and Mary,

Need some guidance from you on this. I don't have the letter here with me. I don't believe there was a discrepancy in the letter and the ord memo. Please advise

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Washburn, Ben" <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Date: November 18, 2014 at 7:13:34 PM CST
To: "Carey, Curtis" <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jacob Barker <JBarker@post-dispatch.com>
Date: November 18, 2014 at 4:20:56 PM CST
To: "Washburn, Ben" <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Subject: Brooks Letter on Bridgeton

Ben,

I left you a voice message about a story we're running tomorrow on some correspondence from Director Brooks on what the EPA thinks will happen if the SSE reaches West Lake.

In a response to the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, Brooks writes that EPA believes there is no potential for gasses containing RIM to be released if the SSE migrates into OU-1.

Brooks' letter appears to contradict a March assessment from the Engineering Technical Support Center that indicates there is the potential for fine particle releases.

Can you or someone at EPA explain the discrepancy?

Brooks' letter is some of the most straightforward communication we have on a very big question: how worried should people be about the

fire getting to West Lake. So if no one can speak to the issue today, maybe we can schedule a time to meet with someone in the future.

Thanks.

Jacob Barker

Energy and environment reporter

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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